

# Cincinnati Public Schools

# Transforming Teaching & Learning A Collaborative Journey

#### What is Collaboration?

"Collaboration is a mutually beneficial and well defined, respectful relationship entered into by two or more people (or groups) to achieve common goals."

CPS Definition of CollaborationGE Conference, 2009



# A Collective Commitment...



#### To A Shared Vision...

"Cincinnati Public Schools is an exceptionally innovative and socially responsible school district dedicated to preparing every student for excellence in life."

Cincinnati Board of Education, January 2011



### By All Stakeholders

- Board of Education
- District administrators
- Union leadership
- Community partners
- Parents



# A Collaborative History





## Local Decision Making

- Local School Decision Making Committees
  - School governance
    - Approves budget, selects principal
    - Comprised of principal, parents, teachers, other staff, community members, students in equal proportions
- Instructional Leadership Teams
  - Site-based management
    - Develops budget, plans and monitors instruction, training, teams
    - 60 percent teachers; other members include administration, staff and parents

# Community Collaborations



#### **Facilities Master Plan**

- Approved by voters in 2003
- New or fully renovated schools for all students
- "Green" schools
- More than bricks and mortar

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Environments



# Community Learning Centers

- Began as part of CPS facilities plan
- Serve as hubs for community services that promote academic excellence, recreational, health and cultural opportunities for students, communities
- Nationally recognized for engaging community partnerships in schools

# Public-Private Partnerships

- Expand resources, build bonds with community
- Aligned with district priorities, data-driven school and student needs
- Take diverse forms
  - Examples include GE Foundation Common Core Standards support, Strive Partnership regional urban education improvement collaboration

# Transforming Teaching



#### Joint Commitment

- Teacher Evaluation System
  - Comprehensive evaluation system validated as effective in research by Harvard University
  - Includes Peer Assistance and Evaluation program
  - Provides support for new teachers through induction program

#### Teachers as Full Partners

- District level
  - Educational Initiatives Panel
    - Joint district-level committee
    - Monitors school performance
  - Curriculum Councils
- School level
  - Lead Teachers
  - Content Innovation Specialists
  - Learning Teams

#### **Collaboration Works!**

#### **Cheers for CPS contract**

It's been a long, hard year of negotiations for Cincinnati teachers and the Board of Education, and word Wednesday of a tenative agreement on contract talks is positive news indeed.

CINCINNATI ENQUIRER — 12/9/10

# Achievement, Accountability and Choice



#### Achievement

- In 2010, Cincinnati Public Schools became the first and only major urban district to earn an Effective rating on the Ohio Report Card, repeated in 2011
- Ranked in top 2 percent in state in learning growth through Value-Added measure
- Increased graduation rate from 51 percent to 82 percent between 2000 and 2010



#### Achievement

	2008-09 2009-10 2010-11
Excellent	5 6 6
Effective	8 8 12 +
Continuous Improvement	13 17 23 +
Academic Watch	19 18 13 -
Academic Emergency	14 8 3 -
Preliminary School Ratings for 2010-11 as of July 2011	

### Accountability

- Elementary Initiative
  - Targeted 16 underperforming schools with structured support
  - 13 experienced significant improvement
- School redesigns and closures
  - 4 redesigned schools
    - New staffs, leadership
    - Moved up in state ratings, met federal improvement targets

### Accountability

- Performance evaluations for administrators
- First Ohio district to include student learning growth in teacher advancement and pay

#### Choice

- Neighborhood schools
- Magnet schools
  - Examples: Montessori, School for Creative and Performing Arts (K-12)
- High schools of choice



#### Choice

- Recent new schools
  - Gifted Academy,
     Digital Academy,
     Hyde Park neighborhood school
- Future partnership schools
  - SEED residential district-sponsored charter school, exploring New Tech partnership



#### **Questions & Conversation**

